

MAIL PIECE VERIFICATION SYSTEM
HAVING FORENSIC ACCOUNTING CAPABILITY

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A mail piece verification system for processing mail pieces having
5 associated therewith respective mail piece data. The system includes a
plurality of postage metering systems for preparing mail pieces, a plurality of
mail processing centers for receiving mail pieces and obtaining the respective
mail piece data and a data center means in operative communication with the
plurality of postage metering systems and the plurality of mail processing
10 centers, the data center means including a plurality of account files
corresponding to the plurality of postage metering systems. The data center
means stores reset data in each of the plurality of account files representative
of reset activity associated with the plurality of postage metering systems,
respectively, receives respective mail piece data corresponding to the mail
15 pieces from the plurality of mail processing centers, uses the respective mail
piece data, storing empirical data in each of the plurality of account files
representative of mailing activity associated with the plurality of postage
metering systems, respectively, and conducts a forensic accounting analysis
of the empirical data and the reset data associated with a selected postage
20 metering system.